

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (currently amended): A method of scheduling a hard copy output engine event, comprising:

~~providing a hard copy output engine configured to use a consumable commodity~~ comprising:

- a sensor;
- a processor; and
- a memory;

sensing status information of ~~the consumable commodity~~ a plurality of hard copy output engine events;

processing the status information, wherein the processing includes comparing the status information to information housed in the memory to determine if ~~notification should occur to a notification recipient~~ any of the recipients should be appointed to a task corresponding to an event; and

appointing a recipient to a task, the appointing comprising:

composing an electronic message to ~~the notification recipient~~ the recipients that includes the ~~detected~~ status information; and

transmitting the electronic message from the hard copy output engine to a scheduling engine.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The method of claim 24, wherein ~~detecting the status information~~ includes detecting at least one of a toner low or toner out status.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The method of claim 24, wherein ~~composing an electronic message includes composing the electronic message to include the~~ status information chosen from a list consisting of: comprises one or more of percentage of remaining consumable, blind carbon copy to, copy to, company addressed to, expected completion date, defer until, due date, duration, event address, expiration date, follow-up flag, importance, owner, priority, return receipt request status, remind beforehand, reminder, reminder override default, required attendee list, resources, sensitivity, date sent, start date, addressee, tracking status, consumables order list, maintenance items, malfunction and preventative maintenance items.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The method of claim 24, wherein ~~detecting a status includes detecting a status from a list of status items consisting of: the plurality of events~~ comprises one or more of toner out, toner low, preventative maintenance alerts, including cleaning or replacement of component parts, consumables orders, internal billing dates for job accounting, external billing dates for job accounting, low paper, out of paper, low consumables, out of consumables, and need maintenance.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the hard copy output engine is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The method of claim 24, wherein ~~transmitting the electronic message to a scheduling engine comprises transmitting an electronic message including~~ includes a consumable order.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The method of claim 24, wherein ~~sensing status information includes sensing~~ at least one of the plurality of events comprises a future need for preventative maintenance.

Claims 31-37 (cancelled).

Claim 38 (currently amended): A computer implemented hard copy output engine control system, the system comprising:

a plurality of sensors adapted to be coupled to ~~the~~ a hard copy output engine, the sensors being configured to provide status information relating to a plurality of aspects of the hard copy output engine; and

processing circuitry coupled to the sensors, the processing circuitry configured to:

read the sensors and detect the status of the aspects of the hard copy output engine; ~~and~~

selectively look up from a memory ~~contact information for a notification recipient intended to be notified of the status of the aspects of the hard copy engine, compose an electronic message including the detected status, and transmit the electronic message from the hard copy output engine to a scheduling engine~~ recipients corresponding to the aspects; and

schedule the recipients, the scheduling comprising composing an electronic message that includes a description of the aspect and appointing the recipient to address the aspect.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The computer implemented control system of claim 38, wherein the ~~processing circuitry is further configured to detect a~~ the aspect comprises ~~toner low or toner out status amount.~~

Claim 40 (currently amended): The computer implemented hard copy output engine control system of claim 38, wherein the ~~processing circuitry is further configured to compose the~~ electronic message ~~to include information chosen from a list consisting of~~ comprises the one or more of a percentage of remaining consumable, blind carbon copy to, copy to, company addressed to, expected completion date, defer until, due date, duration, event address, expiration date, follow-up flag, importance, owner, priority, return receipt request status, remind beforehand, reminder, reminder override default, required attendee list, resources, sensitivity, date sent, start date, addressee, tracking status, consumables order list, maintenance items, malfunction and preventative maintenance items.

Claim 41 (currently amended): The computer implemented hard copy output engine control system of claim 38, wherein individual ones of the aspects of the hard copy output engine include one of more of toner out, toner low, preventative maintenance alerts, including cleaning or replacement of component parts, consumables orders, low paper, out of paper, low consumables, out of consumables, and need maintenance.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The computer implemented hard copy output engine control system of claim 38, wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to detect a status of a hard copy output engine chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile machines, photocopiers and printers.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The computer implemented hard copy output engine control system of claim 38, wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to detect a future need for preventative maintenance.

Claims 44-49 (cancelled).

Claim 50 (previously presented): The computer implemented control system of claim 38, wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to detect a future need for cleaning or replacement of a component part.

Claims 51-56 (cancelled).

Claim 57 (new): The method of claim 24 wherein the scheduling comprises tasking the recipient.

Claim 58 (new): The method of claim 57 wherein the scheduling further comprises updating the status of the task.

Claim 59 (new): The method of claim 58 wherein the updating comprises calendaring acceptance or declination of a task.

Claim 60 (new): The method of claim 38 wherein appointing comprises tasking the recipient.

Claim 61 (new): The method of claim 60 further comprising updating the status of the task.

Claim 62 (new): The method of claim 61 wherein the updating comprises calendaring acceptance or declination of the task.